

REMARKS/ ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

Claim Objections

Examiner objected to claims 18 and 28 under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. The limitations in claims 18 and 28 which are dependent claims of claim 16 and 24 contradict the limitations in claims 16 and 24.

Claims 18 and 28 have been canceled.

35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 18 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 18 and 28 have been canceled.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 16, 17, 18, 20, 24, 25, 29, 30, 34, 35, 38 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,473,199 (hereinafter "Murakami").
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Examiner rejected claims 26, 27, 36, and 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,829,289 (hereinafter "Tokuno").

To anticipate a claims, the reference must teach every element of the claim. A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. (Manual of Patent Examining Procedures (MPEP) ¶ 2131.)

Applicant's independent claims 16, 24, and 34 include limitations not disclosed nor suggested by Murakami. As a result, Murakami does not anticipate applicant's independent claims 16, 24, and 34.

In particular, applicant's independent claims include the limitation, or a limitation similar thereto, of a mold cap disposed over the substrate such that the mold cap at least partially covers the chip, the mold cap having a plurality of extensions each extending into a respective corner section of the substrate, *the extensions extend into the corner sections of the substrate without extending to edges of the substrate.*

Murakami does not disclose nor suggest the claimed limitation of a mold cap disposed over the substrate such that the mold cap at least partially covers the chip, the mold cap having a plurality of extensions each extending into a respective corner section of the substrate, *the extensions extend into the corner sections of the substrate without extending to edges of the substrate.*

Rather, Murakami discloses a cover that covers all corners of the substrate. As stated in the summary of Murakami:

[T]he semiconductor device body 11 and the ring part 12 are integrally connected via the connecting parts 13. (Murakami Summary, col. 3, lines 33-37). (See Murakami Figure 4).

The connecting parts 13 connect the resin package 14 to the ring part 12 . . . The connecting parts 13 connect the four outer corner parts of the generally rectangular resin package 14 to the four inner corner parts of the ring part 12. Accordingly, the semiconductor device body 11 is held by the ring part 12 via the four connecting parts 13. . . . Accordingly, the semiconductor device body 11 is held by the ring part 12 via the connecting parts 13 without affecting the arrangement of the leads 15. (Murakami Summary, col. 3, lines 49-64).

As a result of Murakami *clearly* failing to disclose or suggest applicant's claimed limitation of *extensions that extend into the corner sections of the substrate without extending to edges of the substrate*. **Rather, Murakami discloses extensions (13 of Murakami) that**
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extend in to the corner sections of the substrate – the opposite of what applicant has claimed. As a result, Murakami does not anticipate applicant's independent claims 16, 24, and 34.

In addition, the remaining claims depend from one of independent claims 16, 24, and 34, and therefore include the distinguishing claim limitations of claims 16, 24, and 34, as discussed above. As a result, the remaining claims are also not anticipated by Murakami.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call John Ward at (408) 720-8300, x237.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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2/9/04



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